

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 10, 12-17, 19-27, 29-34, and 36-42, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

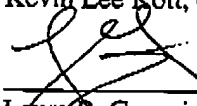
The Examiner has provisionally rejected Claims 10, 12-17, 19-27, 29-34, and 36-42, in view of the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 29-60 of copending Application No. 09/889,637 and claims 51-83 of 09/889,633. Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of copending Application Nos. 09/889,637 and 09/889,633. In an attempt to expedite allowance of the present application, Applicants have submitted a proper Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the Examiner's provisional rejection.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 10, 12-17, 19-27, 29-34, and 36-42, in view of the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-41 of U.S. Patent No. 6,306,817. In an attempt to expedite allowance of the present application, Applicants have submitted a proper Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the Examiner's rejection.

In light of the amendments to the claims and the above remarks, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting. Early and favorable action in the case is respectfully requested. If, prior to allowance, any outstanding issues exist, Applicants' attorney would welcome the opportunity to resolve such issues via a phone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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